

16. The method of claim 14, wherein identifying patterns common to the first and second source documents comprises:

examining document type definitions for the first and second source documents.

17. The method of claim 16, further comprising:

producing the document type definition for the first source document if the document type definition for the first source document does not already exist.

18. The method of claim 14, wherein identifying patterns common to the first and second source documents comprises: performing pattern matching.

19. The method of claim 14, wherein identifying patterns common to the first and second source documents comprises:

matching heuristics of the patterns in the first source document to heuristics of the patterns in the second source document.

20. (Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein identifying patterns common to the first and second source documents further comprises:

matching heuristics of the patterns in the first source document to heuristics of the patterns in the second source document.

21. (Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein using the identified common patterns to map uses the identified common patterns to map automatically elements and sub-elements in the first source document to equivalent elements and sub-elements in the second source document.

22. (Amended) A computer executable method of converting the format of a source document to the format of a set of source documents, the set of source documents having a structure similar to the first source document, the method comprising:

identifying patterns common to the source document and the set of source documents;

mapping elements and sub-elements in the common pattern of the source document to equivalent elements and sub-elements in the common pattern of the set of source documents; and

replacing tag names for the each of the elements and sub-elements in common pattern of the source document with the equivalent tag names of the elements and sub-elements in common pattern of the set of source documents.

23. (Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein identifying patterns common to the source document and the set of source documents comprises:

examining document type definitions for the source document and the set of source documents.

24. The method of claim 23, further comprising:

producing the document type definition for the source document if the document type definition for the source document does not already exist.

25. A computer program residing on a computer-readable medium for converting a format of a first source document to a format of a similarly structured second source document, the computer program comprising instructions causing a computer system to:

identify patterns common to the first and second source documents; and

use the identified common patterns to map elements and sub-elements of the first source document to equivalent elements and sub-elements of the second source document.

26. The computer program of claim 25, further comprising instructions to:

replace tag names for the each of the elements and sub-elements in the common pattern of the first source document with equivalent tag names of the elements and sub-elements in the common pattern of the second source document.

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27. (Amended) The computer program of claim 26, wherein the instructions to identify patterns common to the source document and the set of source documents comprise instructions to:
examine document type definitions for the source document and the set of source documents.

28. A computer system comprising:
a storage device for storing a source document and a set of source documents, the source document having a format different from that of the set of source documents; and
a computer processor configured by a mapping program to identify patterns common to the source document and the set of source documents and map elements and sub-elements in the common pattern of the source document to equivalent elements and sub-elements the common pattern of the set of source documents.--

Please add claims 29-36.

-- Claims 29-36 have been added:

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29. (New) The computer program of claim 27, further comprising instructions causing a computer system to:
produce the document type definition for the first source document if the document type definition for the first source document does not already exist.

30. (New) The computer program of claim 25, wherein the instructions causing a computer system to identify patterns common to the first and second source documents comprises instructions causing a computer system to:
perform pattern matching.

31. (New) The computer program of claim 25, wherein the instructions causing a computer system to identify patterns common to the first and second source documents comprises instructions causing a computer system to:

match heuristics of the patterns in the first source document to heuristics of the patterns in the second source document.

582 7 32. (New) The computer program of claim 31, wherein the instructions causing a computer system to identify patterns common to the first and second source documents further comprises instructions causing a computer system to:

match heuristics of the patterns in the first source document to heuristics of the patterns in the second source document.

33. (New) The computer program of claim 25, wherein the instructions causing a computer system to use the identified common patterns to map uses the identified common patterns to map automatically elements and sub-elements in the first source document to equivalent elements and sub-elements in the second source document.

34. (New) A computer program residing on a computer-readable medium for converting the format of a source document to the format of a set of source documents, the set of source documents having a structure similar to the first source document, the computer program comprising instructions causing a computer system to:

identify patterns common to the source document and the set of source documents;
map elements and sub-elements in the common pattern of the source document to equivalent elements and sub-elements in the common pattern of the set of source documents; and
replace tag names for the each of the elements and sub-elements in common pattern of the source document with the equivalent tag names of the elements and sub-elements in common pattern of the set of source documents.

35. (New) The computer program of claim 34, wherein the instructions causing a computer system to identify patterns common to the source document and the set of source documents comprises instructions causing a computer system to:

35 examine document type definitions for the source document and the set of source documents.

36. (New) The computer program of claim 35, further comprising instructions causing a computer system to:

produce the document type definition for the source document if the document type definition for the source document does not already exist. --
